

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/842,467

Examiner

Ronald D Hartman Jr.

Applicant(s)

MAYER, WALTER

Art Unit

2121

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendments and Declaration under 37 CFR 1.131, filed on 12/01/2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 April 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-17 are represented for further examination with claims 18-20 being withdrawn from further consideration. It is noted that claims 18-20 have been canceled by the Examiner since they are no longer pending.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claims 18-20.

Response to Amendment

3. The Statement of Prior Invention filed on 12/1/2004 under 37 CFR 1.131 is sufficient to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) using the Hinrich et al. reference; U.S. Patent No. 6,775,767.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-17 are allowed.

As per claims 1-17, specifically independent claims 1 and 13, the prior art of record fails to teach a system and method for determining addresses of actuators located on a bus system, wherein the address for the actuator is determined based on the positing of an end stop of the actuator, in combination with the other claimed features and or limitations.

The closest available prior art appears to be the following references:

- U.S. Patent Application No. U.S. 2004/0199703 A1, issued to Wurth et al., in which an addressing methodology for a bus system is disclosed and

wherein end stops are used to determine the address of actuators located on the bus system. However, this reference does not constitute prior art since it was filed on 1/7/2004, whereas the instant claimed invention was filed effectively filed, in light of the applicant's declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, before 4/18/2001;

- U.S. Patent Application No. U.S. 2003/0052180 A1, issued to Huhn et al., in which an addressing methodology for a bus system is disclosed and wherein end stops are used to determine the address of actuators located on the bus system. However, this reference does not constitute prior art since it was filed on 9/19/2001, whereas the instant claimed invention was filed effectively filed, in light of the applicant's declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, before 4/18/2001;
- U.S. Patent Application No. U.S. 2001/0044860 A1, issued to Hinrichs et al., which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,775,767, in which an addressing methodology for a bus system is disclosed and wherein end stops are used to determine the address of actuators located on the bus system. However, this reference does not constitute prior art since it was filed on 4/18/2001, whereas the instant claimed invention was filed effectively filed, in light of the applicant's declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131, before 4/18/2001; and
- U.S. Patent Application No. U.S. 2002/0096573 A1, issued to Bruzy et al., which is now U.S. Patent No. 6,771,178, in which in which an addressing methodology for an vehicle HVAC bus system is disclosed and wherein end stops are used to determine the address of actuators located on the bus system. However, this reference does not constitute prior art since it was filed on 1/15/2002, whereas the instant claimed invention was filed

effectively filed, in light of the applicant's declaration under 37 C.F.R.
1.131, before 4/18/2001.

Conclusion

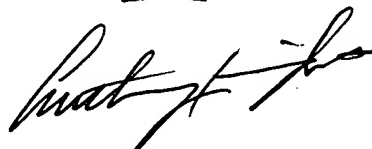
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ronald D Hartman Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272 - 3684. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri., 11:30 am - 8:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anthony Knight can be reached at (571) 272 - 3687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ronald D Hartman Jr.
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2121

x RDH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony Knight', is written over the printed name.

Anthony Knight
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3600